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School's back

Easing the jitters of 'minor niners'

Football Lakeshore Catholic starts season with bulls' eye on its back, Page 19



INPORTANEWS

SHERKSTON . LOWBANKS For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

FESTIVAL: More than 400 volunteers made event possible

Woman wants Thousands experience 'days gone by' at Marshville

InPort News Staff

vial back

WAINFLEET - Dale Swain meant everything to his daughter Rachel, see FATHER'S ASHES | A2





MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Mike Jansen leads members of the 1st Lincoln Militia during a musket demonstration held Sunday afternoon during the 22nd annual Marshville Heritage Festival.

InPort News Staff WAINFLEET - The spirit of the 1850s came alive last week

end, and tens of thousands of people were there to enjoy it. The 22nd annual Marshville Heritage Festival opened its gates to record crowds that bared the windy weather to have the experi-

ence of a lifetime. Like taking a step back in time. Marshville Heritage Village was filled not only with historic buildings, but with volunteers dressed in full period costumes, offering a variety of demonstrations, entertainment and interesting informa-

tion about the olden days. Festival chair Margaret Robertson said people often return year after year for the annual event because they enjoy the family-oriented atmosphere, as well as the opportunity to "see the way things were done in days gone by."

see MARSHVILLE | A2

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FATHER'S ASHES

'My dad was everything to me'

FROM PAGE AT

When he died 11 years ago, besides memories and photos, Rachel had one constant reminder of her father with her at all times - some of his ashes

Those ashes were in a small, stainless steel vial at the end of a black felt chain that hung from the rearview mirror of her car.

A couple of weeks ago, that vial, along with a sweater, other clothes and sunglasses. were stolen from her car when it was parked overnight at the quarry on Quarry Rd.

in Wainfleet. "My dad was everything to

me," Rachel said. When she discovered the break-in to her car, Rachel "freaked out" and spent hours searching the parking lot and surrounding area. She also called police to report the theft

"I've been back to the quarry almost every night. hoping someone will walk by wearing my sweater or sunglasses. I just keep hoping I'll find the vial."

She said whoever broke into her car may have done so because there was a GPS holder stuck on the windshield and they may have

been looking for a GPS. What she doesn't understand is why someone took

"You can tell by looking at it that it's not worth anything ... it doesn't look expensive. I have no idea why they would

the vial.

toko it"

Her mother Kathy said the thief may have believed there were drugs in the vial because of its long shape. But Kathy said the vial is



Rachel Swain is shown with her father Dale. A vial containing her father's ashes was stolen from Rachel's car. sealed shut with crazy glue

and can't be opened. "Rachel was 10 when her dad passed away in April 1999. He called her his 'sparkling diamond.' She was so heartbroken that I bought the vial and put his ashes in so she could keep him with her

always," said Kathy. Her father's ashes have been in every car Rachel has owned

"I feel like he's saved me from a lot of things," said Rachel. "I feel lost without the vial. I need it back."

She said anyone with information on who broke into her car should call police. She wants her father's ashes back more than anything else, she said and added whoever has information can call her as well at 905-359-9822.

diohnson@wellandtribune.ca

■ MARSHVILLE



additions, Robertson said

"This is the only form of

revenue we have, we're not

sponsored, we don't get any

government dollars," she

said, adding she was thankful

it was yet another successful

for families, with several gen-

erations of volunteers assist-

ing each year, she said. For

many, it has become tradi-

The event is run by families

year for the festival.

Volunteers Bob Dean, Nicholas Dean and Raiph Costello move a large log, ready to be cut, toward the back entrance of the steam More than 400 volunteers make Marshville a success

FROM PAGE A1

Visitors are often surprised, she said, when they see the calibre of festival a small town like Wainfleet is able to

pull off It takes more than 400 dedicated volunteers to make the three-day event possible, creating a historic, friendly and

welcoming environment for an estimated 20,000 guests This is a treasure that Wainfleet has, and it's great that we can showcase it. Robertson said of the festival.

The event provided visitors with countless things to do and see, including exhibits by the Niagara Antique Power Association featuring early farming and housebold items, a daily car show featuring vehicles from different eras, hundreds of crafters, and performances by a wide variety of entertainment acts.

There were displays of vintage clothing and toys, live exhibits of the 1st Lincoln Militia, and freshly-made old-fashioned apple fritters that had a steady line-up of visitors waiting for a taste all weekend.

No one went home empty handed, as many of the demonstrations provided free souvenirs, such as shingles stamped with the festival name, for people to take home. Garden Mums 2 gal.

how those wooden shingles were made, how horseshoes were created, and were able to try their hand at creating a piece of rope.

Robertson said many people were also drawn to the handmade canoe, made by five volunteers, that was to be raffled off at the end of the weekend Each year a canne is built

and raffled, she said, generating additional funds for the

the village and making any necessary improvements or

volunteer. All proceeds from the fes-"This is an important part tival each year go toward maintaining the buildings at

tion to participate, whether as a visitor, demonstrator or of Wainfleet, and an important part of our lives."

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MARSHVILLE HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The old days come to life at Marshville



Sue Gamble, of the 1st Lincoln Militia, checks the chicken and rice soup she has cooking over an open flame.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff PI Alanna Roest collects freshly made old-fashioned apple fritters from Joanne Morin



Volunteer Taylor Bouwers demonstrates how to work an 1895 wood lathe.



Herman Stolk and Mike Basco work to create souvenir shingles that visitors were able to take home from the festival



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Volunteer Neale Kramer helps to dish out piping hot soup made fresh over an outdoor fire Sunday during the 22nd annual Marshville Heritage Festival.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Nicole Julien and Marilena Biscotti put their sawing skills to the test, learning it may not be as easy as it seems.



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Phot Matthew Hines works to move freshly bailed hay as other volunteers demonstrate how the hay-bailing equipment is



Glen Moore, of Wainfleet's Heritage Woodcarvers, creates a welcome sign by hand.

INPORTANEWS

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ourview

A Wainfleet treasure

he weather last weekend wasn't the greatest, but the crowds still showed up for the 22nd annual Marsbville Heritage Festival. More than one visitor who spoke to InPort News reporter

Maryanne Firth gave the festival an A grade in history and fun.

People told her the event, with a variety of activities and

exhibits was a great way to spend time with family and have fun.

Children learned while they explored the grounds of Marshville Heritage Festival.

They saw what life was like for the people who lived in the township back in the mid-1800s, with authentic displays and working machinery from the time period. The grounds are also to many period buildings, something unique the festival has to offer thers in Niagara

and beyond.

Festival chair Margaret Robertson said people often return year after year for the annual event because they

return year after year for the annual event because they enjoy the family-oriented atmosphere, as well as the opportunity to "see the way things were done in days gone by."

Visitors are often surprised, she said, when they see the calibre of festival a small town like Wainfleet is able to pull off.

It takes more than 400 dedicated volunteers to make the

three-day event possible, creating a historic, friendly and welcoming environment for an estimated 20,000 guests. "This is a treasure that Wainfleet has, and it's great that we can showcase it," Robertson said of the festival. We agree with Robertson, the festival and the grounds

are a treasure that everyone should visit.

The organizers and volunteers are also another true treasure the festival has.

We'd like to congratulate both on putting on another great event.

Give it back

Whoever broke into Rachel Swain's car in the last few weeks, needs to give her necklace with its attached vial, back.

That yiel contains the schee of her father Dale who

died II years ago. Beside memories and photos, it's the only connection the woman has with her father. We'd hope the thief who broke into her car has at least a tiny bit of conscience and returns the necklace and vial. If someone knows who broke into her car, they should call police or urge the person to return the vial and give Rachel her father back.

I'VE REEN THINKING

We must keep our priorities straight

MAHLON MARTIN Portal Village Bible Chapel

The first Monday in September is Labour Day. This date is set aside for the voice of the labour to proclaim its goals and ambitions. We thank God for the status our

We thank God for the status our working personnel have attained. Things are so structured that if one wishes to work hard they will find themselves being richly rewarded for their diligence. Nothing seems to come easily. There is no royal road to success.

But if we are willing to give it all we've got we will find ourselves moving toward the top like cream. The idea of being gainfully employed is good. It gives one a deep sense of self-satisfaction to be able to provide a comfortable living standard for our dependants and us. It also keeps us well occupied. Having too much free time on our hands just simply isn't good for us.

isn't good for us. We must be careful at all times to keep our priorities straight. We may never do anything at the expense of our family. If God bas given us a family they must always retain a very important spot in our values. We owe much to our ramily, They are the ones we go with on vacation with. It is their funny stories we hear around the dinner table in the evening. It is while we are with them that we relax from the pressures of the

day.

They are the ones we go to when we are not feeling well. The bible has some excellent advice for all family members.

"Wives, understand and support your

husbands by submitting to them in ways that homor the Master. Husbands, go all out in love for your wives. Don't take advantage of them. Children, do what your parents tell you. This delights the Master no end. Parents, don't come down too hard on your children or you'll crush their spirits. Colosissas 318-22 (Message) brea more importantly God Company of the Colosis of the Colo

highest priority.
Since we are God's creatures we must at all times keep our lives in tune with Him. because we will be accountable to

Him at the end off life's road.

To keep our lives in tune our first step
must be to receive Jesus Christ into our
life as Lord and Saviour.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." Revelation 3:20°. Even though we do have the Lord in our lives we will still up want to do our own daily bible reads the want to do our own daily bible reads the want to do our own daily bible reads the state of the common that the state of the state of the state of the district of the their prayers before they go to bed in the evening. We still need to have

fellowship with God's people and enjoy weekly church services.

The amount of time we spend in our daily exercises may vary according to our circumstances. Since God created us and olseed us here on this earth He

obviously did it with purpose in mind.
The bible states that God created us
so He could have fellowship with us. In
fact back in the Old Testament we have a

lengthy account of instructions that God gave to His people. They were to build a tabernacle and offer dally sacrifices so they fellowship with God.

They needed these searcifices because man is a sinner and has always been. When Adam and Eve Sinned in the Garden of Eden they were immediately put out because of their sin. Sin always separates us from God. This is why it was necessary for Jesus Christ to come to this earth and lee for us. "For Jihere God and men, the man Christ Jesus, Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. I'll mothy 2:-5e'. This made It possible for God to This ma

us into fellowship with Him.
God wants us to dwell with Him for
eternity. We must be born again, that
is born into His family for this to take
place. All that choose against Jesus and
close their lives to Him will be in hell for
eternity. 'And this is the testimony: that
God has given us eternal life, and this
because the second of the second of the control of the second of the

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may (continue to) believe in the name of the Son of God."

110hp 5:11-13"

I sincerely hope that you will open your life to lesus today.

When He enters you will have eternal life and you will be on your way to heaven. Tell Him you are sorry for your sin and ask Him to be your saviour.

■readers'views

Centre will bankrupt city

As a social democrat, I do not mind paying taxes and spending axpayers' money on items that promote a common good like health care, education and instructure. As an artist, I recognize the need for support for the arts, culture and sports actilities. I cannot, however support present plans for the so-called Health and Wellness Centre in Port Colbrone.

The plans will bankrupt the city of Port Colborne, put us into deficit, raise taxes for all for the benefit of what I believe to be only 10% of our population. This is not fair, equitable or democratic.

If you take the city's hydro funds of \$15 million, which I believe belong to hydro users in Port, and divide it by the population of 18,550, every person in the city deserves \$800.63. In other words, the nine of us who will not use this centre will lose \$7,277.63 to the one person who will.

If you take the \$32 million, the projected cost of this project, and do the same calculation, the nine people not using the centre will lose \$15,525.61 to the person who will. Our mayor and the majority of council, who have taken an oath to represent all citizens equally, seem to feel this is fair.

Comparing Port's proposed facility with those our CEO looked at to determine operating costs, our council is planning to build one of the largest and most expensive complexes in one of the smallest and

poorest communities of all. Bvery person for or against this project only wants what's best for Port. Other communities have built better complexes for less with more community involvement.

Why build a glass entertainment complex to benefit outside operators and architects while ignoring the needs of a majority of citizens? Then came the announcement of the nine-storey hotel and we can see we're using tax money to help a hotel operator fill rooms on weekends. If you compare this 120-unit hotel to the 68-unit best Western in Welland and the 80-unit Comfort Inn, which combined have 33 staff, the \$310,798 we can expect in taxes represents a 5.7% return on the

Compare this to the recent announcement in Guelph of a \$30 million facility owned by Canadian Solar which will produce solar panels. This project, which includes considerable tax incentives, is expected to create 500 good paying jobs.

investment of tax dollars

Anyone who votes to continue with this project as it stands should not be re-elected. A small community like ours cannot be all things to all people, but must be the most it can for the majority.

Larry Rosnuk Port Colborne

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Up-lifted at a church pig roast

ig roasts are a blast unless of course you're

They always signify some sort of a party in the works, a celebration of some sort.

This Saturday, thanks to the initiative of Matthew Ayres and Chuck Simpson, First Lutheran Church on Elm St. is having one as a fundraiser, And, it's going to be followed by a movie, but with a twist. The film will be shown outdoors on a giant screen in the church's courtyard. Think a drive-in, but without the cars. It's really neat.

This year's event is actually the second go-round, the first being last year's, And if last year's was any indication, it's going to be a lot of fun and very family-oriented as it's a non-alcoholic event.

The meal itself is amazing. Chuck operates Pig Roast Promotions and he starts



George Duma RYGEORGE

cooking early in the morning so that by the time the dinner hour rolls around, the spread is ready. The pork is complemented by a bunch of incredible pot-luck salads made by congregation members, with buns and lots

of good feelings on the side. Matt and Chuck are two of the nicest guys you'll ever want to meet, just true gentlemen in every sense of the word. They make an excellent team, with Matt and his lovely wife Susan doing a lot of the legwork before Chuck comes in and does his thing, which is to roast up one of the most amazing pork dinners one will ever taste

I caught up to Chuck this

Heritage Festival, where he roasts up pig on a bun old schoolhouse and the old church in the Marshville

Chuck is great company. He always has a smile on his face and he has a great sense of humour

He says he starts cooking the day's meal about nine

hours before it needs to be ready. The pig he roasts on a spit will then feed 150 people. While chatting, I noticed the tray of crackle sitting next to the pig. Almost like a reflex action, I reached over and grabbed a piece as we talked. Crackle isn't for everybody It's the crispy skin that's carved off the pig once it's ready and it's then set aside.

see DUMA I A6

Church's pig roast-movie night tomorrow. Above, Chuck prepares to carve up pork at last weekend's Marshville Heritage Festival.









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Movie and roasted pig at First Lutheran Church

FROM PAGE A5

Health food it's not but to crackle fans, it's arguably the best part of the day at a pig roast. It's also the reward for hanging out with Chuck while he cooks and being

there when it's ready to go. You certainly don't need me to tell you that crackle is probably one of the worst things you could ever ingest into your system, health wise, but it's so incredibly good. It's why it's a good thing I go to one pig roast a year - this one. Any more frequency than that, and my arteries would be like stone

The movie selection for the evening is geared to a family setting. Last year, Matt screened Secondhand Lions. a cute film starring Michael Caine and Robert Duvall as two wealthy off-the-wall uncles who take in their young nephew for summer,

905-834-9587

played by Haley Joel Osmont. This year, the movie is Up, the animated gem of a film from last year that came out of nowhere to pick up a number of Oscar nominations, including best picture. It was only the second time in history an

animated film received a best picture nomination, Beauty and the Beast being the first back in the early '90s. And while Up did lose the best picture award to The Hurt Locker, it was the runaway winner of the best animated The film centres around

78-year-old Carl Fredricksen. By tying thousands of balloons to his home. Carl sets out to fulfill his lifelong dream to see the wilds of South America, Right after lifting off, however, he learns he isn't alone on his journey, since Russell, a wilderness explorer 70 years his junior, has inadvertently become a

stowaway on the trip We saw it in the theatre when it came out and it's an absolutely delightful movie. funny and poignant at the

same time. Tickets to the pig roastmovie night are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children six-16, while kids five and under are free. Tickets are available

at the door If the weather doesn't hold. Matt and the gang will simply move the whole thing into the church hall and set up the screen in there. Either way, it promises to be a fun evening. Festivities get underway at 4 n.m. but dinner isn't served

until 6. The two hours are basically for socializing. After dinner, a magician will perform for the kids while everybody waits for darkness to come before the movie can be screened. It'll be a great evening of fun and quite possibly the best entertainment deal in

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town that day. First Lutheran Church is located at 688 Elm St. If you do need more information between now and tomorrow evening, feel free to call Matt at 905-834-1014.

MEA CULPA: In my column a couple of weeks ago about artist Kathleen Thorsen and her Stone House Gallery at King and Sugarloaf

Sts., I goofed. The column read: "We met at the School of Ideas. Linda Hawkins's art school. Kathleen says." Kathleen was referring to where she first became acquainted with fellow artist Valerie Watson.

I heard Kathleen wrong. It should have been Linda Hankin's School of Ideas, My sincere apologies to Linda Hankin for the brain cramp. And a special thank you to Stacey Clarke for bringing it

PORT COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

to may attention.

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper husiness. He is currently a member of the journalism

faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at: gduma@ cogeco.ca



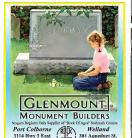
First Lutheran Pastor Thomas Arth, left, and Matthew Avres are both gearing up for tomorrow's pig roast-movie night, to



be held in the Elm St. church's courtyard.







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Marshville makes grade with crowd

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET - The 22nd annual Marshville Heritage Festival has earned an A grade in bistory and fun. according to the crowd. Darlene Barnes, of

Hamilton, brought her grandchildren to the festival for the very first time last Sunday. She and her family enjoyed the variety of activities and exhibits that were available for them to experience

The crafters were a particular favourite, as well as the demonstrations within the steam saw mill, she said. "We'll definitely be back. What a great way to spend time with family and have

Todd and Bonnie Shore travelled to the festival from Stratford, bringing their two children Skylar and Jillian to experience the heritage an outdoor fire.

"The girls have learned a lot, and seen a lot," Todd said, "There's a lot of good history bere for the kids, how things used to be done." Though she's been to a

similar festival on a smaller scale. Bonnie said she was amazed by the amount of people at the event. For nine-year-old Dylan Clack-Tanguay, the highlight of the festival was simple.

"I liked the candy shop," be said, while enjoying a rock sugar stick. He and brother Nicholas both learned a lot about "the olden days," he said, and enjoyed the buildings and

machinery they got to see. Marilena Biscotti, of Grimsby, said she often comes out to the festival and has a few favourite treats when she does, such as the homemade soup made over

It's important that the

people of Wainfleet are keeping the history alive, she said.
You lose something if you don't remember the

Chris Brueske, of Fenwick, attends the festival annually with her children Emily and

Everything is so fresh here. The atmosphere is so

different," she said The family took on the rope demonstration, each making a piece to take

home, before heading off for some kettle corn. Chris said her children learned about pioneers TARGETED

INPORT NEWS

during the last school year, making this trip a little more poignant than in the past. "It's important to know where you come from, to know how you got where

you are," she said. Katie Sneek, of Port Colborne, said she enjoys coming to the festival for the

"There's some really unique stuff here. It's nice to see," she said, while carrying a few recent purchases. Some items found at the festival can't be found anywhere else in the area, she said, which makes for a nice shopping trip. mfirth@wellandtribune.ca

Skylar and Jillian Shore, of Stratford, have a special souvenir to remember their time at Marshville Heritage Festival.

ADVERTISING that works for Unfortunately, as the weather

re you feeling the pain from stiff knees, sore Afinger joints and an aching back? These are just a few of the ailments we seem to suffer as we age. As a matter of fact, by the time we turn 45 years old, almost half of us will suffer the aches and pains of joint problems caused by aging. injury, overuse or arthritis.

Joint stiffness often limits your mobility and makes it difficult to perform many daily functions - because it's too painful. Yet, in spite of the pain and the problems caused by aching joints, many people are reluctant to take prescription drugs because of the side effects.

Joint pain and arthritis is the number one cause of disability and affects more people than ever. Did you know that in North America alone each year, arthritis results in more than 36 million doctor and hospital visits? And nearly twothirds of people with arthritis are vounger than 65 years of age!

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starts to get colder, many of us will really start to feel the stiffness and the pain in our joints.

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your sore joints and it can improve your joint range, stiffness and motion. Isn't that exactly what you want... fast relief, less pain and more flexibility? For more about OsteoMove Extra Strength,

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the past gives people an under-

standing of where they've

roots, and it's something we

should all be proud of and

Lincoln Militia, said people

can't appreciate what they

have today until they under-

stand what those in the past

history to be shared with a

large audience, he said, while "remembering the hardships and struggles" that people of

the past had to experience.

The festival allows for that

have gone through.

"This is our history, our

Mike Jansen, of the 1st

come from.

'It's all about sharing history'

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET - To appreciate the present, you must celebrate the past. That's the message that at the 22nd annual Marshville Heritage Festival are hoping to

The festival, which happened over Labour Day weekend, celebrates life in the 1850s what life was like back then. Herman Stolk rups the Marshville Shingle Mill - a popular attraction at the event each year - and performs live

demonstrations of how the

wooden shingles used to be "It's all about sharing his tory," he said, while taking a break from stamping souvenir shingles with the festival name. "They get to see how the old boys did it when men were men

Stolk said it's enjoyable to be able to share that beritage with a crowd, especially with youth TARGETED

DVIETSIC

that works for

your basiness

INPORT NEWS

LEAN

who he hopes will gain an appreciation for the labourous work that was once required.

"It's important because it lets them know what their grandfather, their great grandfather had to do. They get an appreciation for how tough it

For many people visiting Marshville, the demonstrations are a real eye-opener, said festival chair Margaret Robertson.

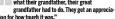
"Our lives are so full now. Many people count their blessings to see what people had to do back then. They worked very hard for very little money." Wainfleet Mayor Barb Henderson said learning about

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca It's important because it lets them know what their grandfather, their great



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Taking another run

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 INPORT NEWS

saving so.

Decmaraio

ante che cald

waterfront.

claimed "team player," if the

team is going in the wrong

direction. Desmarais has no

problem standing up and

She would like to see direc-

tion sought from constituents

through semi-annual ward

meetings, giving the public a

oping loan or grant packages,

or offer tax break incentives to

encourage landlords to prop-

erly maintain their property

- making homes safer for ten-

If elected Desmarais also

hopes to address "barriers to

living" found within the city,

such as the lack of access to

Port Colborne's beaches and

active in the community.

sitting on a number of com-

mittees and boards such as

Heritage Port Colborne, the

Gateway Association and Port

Desmarais has long been

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In Ward

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The city

landlords.

opinions.

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Angle Doemarsie believes che can be the strong voice that's needed in Ward 2.

After twice attempting to seek the ward seat - once in 2003 and again in 2006 - the longtime Port Colborne resident has decided to throw her hat in the ring for a third time.

"I'm going to take another run at it," she told The Tribune Friday, adding it was only 36 votes that separated her and incumbent Domenic Ursini in Desmarais, 57, said she's

confident she can be a strong voice for the people, helping both the city and the ward to move forward successfully. But before progression can occur, a number of issues need to be addressed, she said. such as accountability within

Desmarais would like to see a code of conduct put in place that creates expectations for elected officials to live up to. If those expectations are not met, we need a vehicle whereby

they're removed," she said. She believes all voting within council chambers should be recorded, making councillors "more accountable to the electors"

"Something as simple as this can make a huge difference." Desmarais said council's focus should be on affordability.

"These days, the price of everything is going up. We need to take a step back and look at our needs instead of ourwants*

Projects need to be envisioned to fit the community's need, she said, and the city has to "get creative" with funding so it doesn't put a burden on

the taxpayers. While she is a self-pro-

EYE EXAMS OPTOMETRIST at **Portal Village Plaza Dr. Janine Robichaud** 905-834-0532 482 STEELE ST. PORT COLBORNE

■ FLECTION: Ward 2

Candidate offers a 'wealth' of business experience

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News

PORT COLBORNE - Pierre Kountouris hopes to use his

wealth of business experience to help Port Colborne thrive. The 44-year-old project manager recently filed bis papers, entering the Ward 2 race for the upcoming munic-

inal election. Always involved in the community in some capacity. Kountouris has sat on a number of the city's committees over the years, assisted with a variety of festivals, and has been heavily involved in local minor sports. He has experience in both the public and private sectors, which he

hopes to bring to the table to help rejuvenate the city. In 2003, he made an unsuc-

Port Colborne Ontario Early

ings: Monday to Friday from

children under the age of six vears and their parent or caregiver.

cessful bid for the Ward 2 seat, and has since focused bis attention on raising his four children - Philip. Iulianna, Connor and Jenna

- with wife Kelly Kountouris expressed his love for the lakeside city, and said it's a place he

hopes to see his children call home as they grow into adults. But in Kountouris

order for vouth to embrace Port Colborne, "we need to keep pushing economic development, and create industry assessment

that will in turn create jobs," he said While the upcoming Health and Wellness Centre

project is "an exciting one," Kountouris said it's "not the only project that will motivate our youth to stay in the community." In order to retain its current

residents while welcoming in new faces, the city needs to better measure its economic development, he said. Kountouris said his "fairly

extensive business background" will lend itself to the role of councillor and assist the city with its progression, if he is elected. The city, he said, is "for the

most part headed in the right direction* "As long as we keep being responsible and transparent,

morning program is for toddlers aged 18 months to 30 months and their parent/ caregiver: ■ Play is a Serious Busi-

ness, Play & Learn - Interactive Preschool Program on Thursday, September 9 from 9:30 - 11:30. Pre-registration is required. This morning program is for preschoolers aged 21/2 to 6 years old and their parent/ caregiver.

Sessions are free of charge.

and don't rely on the backs of the taxpayers to pay for new projects, we'll continue to do

It's an exciting time in Port Colborne, Kountouris said, as infrastructure projects move forward across the city.

While a "nice gateway into the community" is being created through the construction, those improvements need to continue on into Port Colborne's east side, he said. Kountouris has long been

an advocate for revitalization of the city's east side -- a fight he hopes to continue from council chambers after the Oct 25 vote "We need a strong voice in our ward, and I'm not one to back down from conflict. My integrity is everything to me,

Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Cares, 92 Charlotte St., Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or e-mail oeyc-pc@portcares.on.ca

for more information. Computer workshops and one-on-one training are available at the Wainfleet Township Public Library Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Please call the Library at 905-899-1277 to book an appointment.

ALONG THE LAKESHORE

ONGOING

Years Centre is offering a series of interactive ses-

Interactive play, morn-9-12 and afternoons: Monday to Thursday from 1-4. These programs are for

■ Interactive Infant Program on Monday, September 13, 20 27 and October 4 from 1:30-3:30. Pre-registration is required. This afternoon program is for infants and their parent/caregiver: ■ Play is a Serious Busi-

ness. Play & Learn - Interactive Toddler Program on Wednesday, September 8 from 9:30 - 10:45. Pre-registration is required. This

What is the importance of healthy eating for denture wearers?

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improved and restored with the use of a well made denture, and a vitamin supplement regime planned by your doctor. A well made denture, will allow you to introduce back into your diet all the nutritionally laded foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables, proteins and nuts that were avoided when chewing with an ill-fitting, poorly designed denture. Individuals with implant supported dentures, greatly improve their food choices by including more hard to chew foods that are rich in nutrients, therefore greatly improving their health status

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DAN GRABOWSKI

III ELECTION

Looking to serve for a sixth term

KAESHA FORAND InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Gary Bruno would like to serve a sixth term on council and last week filed his papers to enter the Ward 3 race in Port Colhorne With challenges ahead of council in the coming years,

Bruno is looking forward to

growth, partnerships with the private sector and being cost efficient following tremendous investments in local municipalities by both tiers

of local government. "Specifically in the next term. I want to focus on ensuring the improvements made on all city facilities have a maintenance plan that keeps them looking good. productive, and a source

sense to complete all these improvements if we are not supportive of their upkeep." During the previous years. he's seen decisions made

quickly to ensure council obtains the proper funding for its projects. However, during the next council term he would like to see council improve its communication with taxpavers.

direction council

took on the Moin St improvements and the elimination of compost odours at the Elm St

landfill ette. "As always, we need to continue to grow our local econand the Niagara Regional omy, first by assisting existing business growth and stability,

to choose Port Colborne." His involvement with committees

includes physician recruitment, finance, committee of adjustment , leash-free dog park, Greater Niagara circle route, Elm St., Landfill Site public liaison committee, Main St., BIA, Niagara Regional Broadband Network Port Colborne Economic and Tour ism Development Corp.

planning review committee. The 56-year-old presi-25 election. dent of Park Smart Group, a

ing firm is married to Darcy and they have two children, Christopher, 25, and 24-year-

old Nicole. He volunteers for the annual Lions food drive, is a Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Award recipient and also participates in fundrais-

ing cancer walks. Bruno is the second person to submit their papers for Ward 3. incumbent councillor Bea Kenny has also submitted her papers for the Oct.

kforand@wellandtribune.ca



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Ensuring children receive a quality education

KAESHA FORAND InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Carole Racette wants to ensure her grandchildren learn in a positive, stable school environment.

She also wants to ensure that future generations of students receive quality education.

For those reasons, Racette filed her papers for the trustee position with le Conseil Scolaire De District Catholique

Centre, Sud Racette bas held the French trustee for the position, taking over for Lucille Gauthier who stepped down.

Education is really the foundation for future generations, especially the Francophone population in Ontario, " she said. "Baby boomers are aging and will need services - espe

cially in their own language. For 21 years, she worked for the government as program policy officer on the implementation of the French Language Services Act from 1985 to 2006, with the majority of that time with the Ministry of Health in Toronto.

moved to Port Colborne in 2007. She has two daughters, Charmaine, 43, and 36-yearold Melanie

If re-elected, she would like to focus on the board's special needs programs and ensur-



services and education they Board meetingsfor are held on

a monthly hasis in

Toronto, but Bacette makes a point of attending any additional committee meetings to learn about the board's issues and next steps.

"Especially with my first year I have a lot to learn. So when Issues come to the hoard I have background information." Racette is the second person to file for the trustee position. she joins Jules Letourneau who is also vying for the position

during the Oct, 25 election. Racette is 64 years old and kforand@wellandtribune.ca

■ BACK TO SCHOOL: Port High rolls out welcome mat

Easing the jitters

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - The first day of high school can be pretty intimidating. With hopes of easing those

first-day jitters, staff at Port Colborne High School rolled out the welcome mat a little early for Grade 9 students. An orientation day was held last Thursday, with more than 80 students gathering at the Elgin St. school to tour class-

rooms, meet teachers, and socialize with new classmates Students were also able to participate in a number of activities throughout the day, getting a taste of what the drama, phys-ed and music

departments have to offer. "We want them to see it's fun to get involved in high school." said vice-principal Andrea Jagoe- Lynett, adding the day helps students to "get off to a strong start.

But the day wasn't only for students. Parents gathered in the school's library for a crash course on what high school life is all about, and how they can show support toward their children during the transition.

"We want parents to be involved, like they are in elementary school," Jagoe-Lynett

"It's a real partnership." Fourteen-year-old Christynne Coulombe said she was a little afraid to experience her first real day of high school. though the orientation beloed to ease her worries

She was able to meet some new friends and even catch up with some familiar faces from her elementary school, Dewitt

Having a day just for the Grade 9 students is a "great way to get started," she said, as it helps everyone to become more comfortable

Abbey MacPherson said the orientation provided her with a lot more insight into the school than she had expected.



















FLEMISH BEAUTY PEARS

MINOR INJURIES: Employees hit by debris

Protecting at-risk species Truck crashes into bank

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - The area is receiving \$67,500 from Environment Canada in an attempt to conserve and protect at-risk species and their

The announcement was made last Thursday by Niagara West Glanbrook MP Dean Allison on behalf of Jim Prentice. Canada's environment minister.

Of the funding, \$25,000 is going to Wainfleet with a project designed to mitigate human-related impacts on the spotted turtle and Eastern Massassauga rattlesnake; \$20,000 to Port Colborne to protect the Fowler's toad: \$12,500 to Niagara Falls and Oueenston within the Niagara Gorge where dusky salamander live; and \$10,000 to Welland (Lyons Creek) to protect the American water willow.

Allison believes this program will go a long way to preserving at-risk species. "It's helpful in going a long way to educate people, letting them know and quite frankly



small gath-

ering at

H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park in Port Colhorne "I don't think many people understand species are at-risk and the education process just helps us all to be better

stewards of what we have to deal with here "Maybe deal with landowners to understand how they can better deal with their properties and help protect these important species. The environment is just

"As part of the international year of biodiversity, we are happy to be working with local partners to help conserve Canada's natural legacy."

Anne Yagi, management biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources, is happy to have the funding and said it will be put to good use. "Habitat stewardship fund-

ing is extremely important for addressing stewardship actions necessary for the recovery of species at risk. In this region the funding provided by Environment Canada will support four stewardship projects at the grass roots level by allowing us to improve and protect important habitat, plant trees and create educational materials. Without this funding we would not be able to meet with landowners, improve

habitat and study how well

the improvements are work-

ing," she said.

TD Canada Trust employees were taken to hospital after being hit by cabinets and debris when a truck struck the building last week.

bank, the south-east corner. around 12:20 p.m. on Tuesday. Aug. 31. The area it hit is where located Police said the interior wall

The cabinets and debris that fell struck the two employees who were sitting at a table. Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services and Niagara EMS paramedics were called to the bank and

found both employees sufferprecaution. The driver of the truck. who was not named, was not injured.

Damage to the building was estimated at \$200,000. Mike Bendia, Port Colborne's fire prevention

PORT COLBORNE - Two

Niagara Regional Police said the truck hit the back of the an employee lunchroom is

of the bank, where the truck hit, contained some cabinets. Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services acting Capt. Joe

ing from minor injuries. The to make sure the building was two were taken to hospital as a structurally sound enough for employees and customers to continue using the bank, The bank was determined to be safe for use, though it was recommended no one use that

NORTHEND AUTOMOTIVE

INDUSTRIAL & TIRE

area of the building. Bendia said the truck was left in place and the back area

building official was called in

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Bilodeau looks over the scene at the back of TD Canada Trust where a truck drove into the wall. Damage to the building is estimated at \$200,000 and two employees sitting in a lunch room at the back of the bank, on Clarence St., suffered minor injuries when cabinets tipped over and hit them. officer, said the city's chief of the bank was barricaded off

He said officials did not want to remove the truck and possibly cause further damage before the area was shored up. "A structural engineer will be called in to evaluate that corner of the building."

Police said no charges are anticipated at the crash took place on private property.

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Helping chidlren forget their disabilities for a while

ALLAN BENNER InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - "He's pretty awesome," Riley Roblin said as he rode Sir Steven.

"He's a good trotter." Riley's excitement was obvious as he rode the horse on that hot, dusty late summer evening, as the sun set across the fields to the west of Angle Ruigrok's 3908 Neff Rd. farm she named

Equine Ability. He talked almost continuously as he sat atop the huge black thoroughbred gelding -- a former competitive jumper that now devotes his time to gently carrying children through the corral, giving them the opportunity to learn how to ride a horse and forget their disabilities for a while

Despite being on the back of the huge animal, Riley wasn't worried.

He said he liked being "up tall," and he liked "being with the horses and hanging out with them:

Riley has autism. "He loves being out here," said Riley's mother, Tracev Roblin. "It's been a really

great thing for him. Since he's been riding. she's noticed a big difference in Riley's confidence and self-

"He's fabulous on a horse. He seems to have an affinity with the horses. It's being up there and having control, being able to do it, feeling that sense of accomplishment," she said.

Sir Steven is one of several horses at the farm that offers therapeutic riding for children with various disabilities. Four-year-old Kirstyn Hinkiss was at the farm riding Cowboy, a paint-pony gelding. Her mother Taryn Hipkiss, and other volunteers walked slowly alongside the horse, ensuring the little girl with spastic diplegic cerebral

palsy was safe in the saddle. Most of the time, Kirstyn uses a walker or wheelchair to get around, "But when she's on a horse, that's taken out



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo Four-year-old Kirstyn Hipkiss sits on Cowboy while her mother Tarvn helps hold her steady in the saddle and Riley Roblin, 8, sits aboard Sir Steve. They're two of the first students enrolled in horse riding lessons offered by Equine Ability, a therapeutic

horse farm in rural Port Colhorne of the equation," her mother said. "She loves it. She seems to have a connection with the

horses" They're two of the first students at EquineAbility, a horse farm that specializes in therapeutic riding lessons. Ruigrok said the lessons offer students "a way to participate in an activity that they might not be able to participate in otherwise. It builds a lot of confidence in a lot of these riders -- huge confidence. It's hugely beneficial." Although it's called therapeutic riding, Ruigrok said it's

not really a therapy It's essentially just recreational riding, geared towards riders with various

'We're teaching these kids how to ride in whatever capacity they're able to," she

Riding horses alone is enough to make a huge difference to the children who

"They get tons of benefits. But our main goal in therapeutic riding is to teach them

how to ride. "We want to empower our riders," she said. "We're not doing something to them anymore. We don't want to

limit them by saving they're in therapy." Most horse farms won't accept students with disabilities. They're not equipped to safely allow people with various disabilities to ride the

"But we have the equipment, the horses and the training to modify or to maximize the notential of these

She said the program is focused on the goals of the

"If they want to learn how to ride and eventually to compete, then that's what we'll work towards. If they just want to come out and have a good time, then that's what we'll work on, too.

Ruigrok has been teaching therapeutic riding at other farms, but this year, when she left work as a physiotherapist for Niagara Health System on maternity leave, she decided to spend her year off starting

a therapeutic riding program at her own farm. "Basically everything was ready here for us to run a proA board of directors

was formed in March, and Ruigrok started teaching her first three students at the start

Although the farm is located in rural north east Port Colborne and not that easy to find, Rulgrok said it's actually not too far from several urban areas. It's just minutes away from Welland, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, and a short trip down the QEW from St. Catharines.

"It's easily accessible from a lot of areas'

Ruigrok has big plans for the program in the future. She's hoping to bring in more students, and possibly get a service club involved to offer subsidized lessons for students that need it. She'd also like to gain access to an indoor arena, to allow the

programs to continue over the winter "We're just basically trying to get the word out right now that we're here and we're needing riders and volun-

teers," she said. An open house is planned for Oct. 3, including "demonstration rides for people to show them what therapeutic riding is because there are a whole bunch of misconceptions about therapeutic

She said it's often confused with hippotherapy, which brings together other professionals like physiotherapists, and speech pathologists and use horse riding as a tool in the patient's therapy.

There is currently no hippotherapy program in Niagara she knows of. But that could change,

Ruigrok, a level-one hippotherapist, hopes to offer that program in the future too, but for now she said they're just focusing on getting the therapeutic riding program up and

More information about the program is available online at www.equineabilityniagara.com,or by calling 905-382-5779. Ruigrok said students need

to fill out paperwork, sign consent forms and they need a doctor's referral. "It's just so we know that it's safe for them to ride," she

abenner@wellandtribune.ca

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 Patricia Regier, Program Co-ordinator, Community Support Services of Niagara

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■ GOLDEN PUCK HOCKEY CAMP



REDNO EDANKE Staff Disato Port Colborne Minor Hockey Association president Bill Steele, second from left, top row, accepts a cheque for \$3,800 from Rob Bizley, director of a week-long hockey camp conducted at Westside Arena by the Golden Puck Hockey Committee. The camp, which was sold out for the 19th straight year, attracted 112 boys and girls seven to 16 years of age. Also taking part in a cheque presentation ceremony at centre ice are, front row, from left, instructor Shawn Coers, Andrew Leblanc, Abby D'Onofrio, Mason Klauck, Harrison Langerak, instructor Keven Langerak; back row, instructor Tyler Brown and instructor Dave Caldwell

There's One in Every Crowd

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ALONG THE LAKESHORE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16, 23, 30, OCT. 7 AND 14

Preschool Story Time for ages 2-5 at the Wainfleet Township Public Library. A six-week program of stories, songs, activities and crafts runs Thursdays from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.

No fee for the program but please call 905-899-1277 to pre-register. Each child must be accompanied by their parent/caregiver. This

session's theme is Fantastic

MONDAY, SEPT. 13 Family Wii Night at the Wainfleet Township Public

Library from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to drop in to play Nintendo Wii. Not only great family fun, but great exercise tool

THURSDAY, SEPT.

16 Ancestry Library Edition Workshop at the Wainfleet Township Public Library from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. This hands-on workshop will show you how to use this genealogy database. Must have some general

genealogy database.
Must have some general
computer experience.
Please call 905-899-1277
to pre-register by September 14 as space is limited.

ber 14 as space is limited.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27

Adult Book Club at the

Wainfleet Township Public

Library at 6:30 p.m. This

month's selection is Labor

Day by Joyce Maynard.

Please call 905-899-1277

to register as a book club member.

THURSDAY, SEPT.

Classic Book Club at the Wainfleet Township Public Library from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Join us for afternoon tea on the last Thursday of the month as we discuss the works of classic authors

This month's selection is Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. Please call 905-899-1277 to pre-register your attendance. TUESDAY, OCT. 5 Knitting Classes at the

Wainfleet Township Public Library from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. Beginners can learn how to knit or experienced knitters can learn new skills. Rhoda Wills will be offering 10 lessons (10 weeks) Tuesday afternoons from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. starting October 5. Cost is \$30. For adults and children ages 9 and up. Needles and yarn for beginners will be provided at the ners will be provided at the

first lesson, Please call

905-899-1277 to pre-regis-

ter by September 27. FRIDAY, OCT. 8

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■ FOOTBALL: Lakeshore ready to kick off year

A bull's-eye on their jerseys

BERND FRANKE InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - A high school football team that always hopes to end the year in one CFL stadium will begin this season playing in

Lakeshore Catholic, which in its last game lost to Burlington Notre Dame in the Golden Horseshoe Bowl final played at Rogers Centre in Toronto, sees its first action of 2010 in an exhibition game against Saint Paul at Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium on Saturday, Sept.

By happy coincidence, the Patriots are the only division opponent the Gators won't be playing during a regular season that is being expanding to eight from five games following the realignment of high school football in Niagara.

"So we do get to see them after all. That worked out well for us." Lakeshore head coach Rocky DiPietro said of getting the opportunity to face

A longer regular season. prompted by the decision to use student population as the basis for grouping teams into single A double A and triple A divisions, will require the Gators coaching staff to adjust the timetable for preparing the senior team to play its best football come playoff

"It's always better to play than it is to practise, so the kids will definitely like that," said DiPietro, who is entering his third season as head coach of Lakeshore's senior team after several years as an offensive assistant.

But the CEL Hall of Famer said a schedule nearly twice as long as last year will affect the coaching staff differently.

"It's something for us to get used to again. We always look to neak at the end of the season heading into the

As a perennial pre-season nick to dominate teams in their region before advancing to the provincial championships, the Gators once again will kick off a season with a big silver bull's-eye on their black jerseys as "the team to beat." Lakeshore coaches. however, won't be wasting any time along the side-

their team is perceived on the other side of the line of scrimmage. "The kids look forward to living up to the expectation, it gives the team something to shoot for. But having a target on our backs doesn't

lines worrying about how

mean anything to us." DiPietro said. "The season will play itself out. We only worry

about what we can do with the ball."

Workouts for Lakeshore's junior and senior teams began Monday and daily sessions will continue this week, possibly into Friday, After prospects and returning players were fitted with equipment and the coaching staff introduced, participants at the training camp hit the ground running to various stations designed to get muscle groups used in football "game ready."

Far from being a hindrance, DiPietro considered the high temperatures and even higher humidity that soaked much of Niagara with sweat a help.

"Hot weather is actually good for you. It helps you to get into shape faster," said DiPietro, a veteran of 14 CFL training camps.

"The first objective is to try to get the soreness out of



REDND FRNKE Staff photo Rocky DiPietro, head coach of the senior football team at Lakeshore Catholic, addresses newcomers and prospects at the opening day of tryouts.

you," defensive co-ordinator all up to you. Your job is to Terry Lehne said Lehne, who spent six seasons as a defensive back in the CFL, focused his comments on newcomers when he told players on the opening of workouts that playing time would be based on performance on the field rather than on decisions made along the sidelines.

"How much you play is bfranke@wellandtribune.ca

tion faculty in 2008.

put yourself on the field, and

you will have a lot of com-

petition. There are guys who

here who don't want to come

off the field," said Lehne,

who spent 12 years teaching

and coaching football at St.

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Lakeshore's physical educa-

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